

## **Claims**

1. A device for paying out a bonus to a player playing a gaming machine comprising;  
  
a gaming machine  
  
a dispensing unit comprising a numeric counter for counting the number of coins a player has placed in said gaming machine;  
  
said dispensing unit further comprising a means for showing a player when a ticket will be generated;.  
  
said dispensing unit further comprising a ticket dispensing apparatus.
2. The device of claim 1 wherein said dispensing unit is a side-mounted box attached to said gaming machine.
3. The device of claim 1 wherein said dispensing unit is placed inside said gaming machine.
4. The device of claim 1 wherein said dispensing unit is an add-on to any existing gaming machine and gaming device.
5. The device of claim 1 wherein said gaming machine includes video poker machines, video bingo games and video keno games
6. The device of claim 1 wherein said dispensing unit is a self contained unit that does not affect play or outcome of said gaming machine.
7. The device of claim 1 wherein said numeric counter counts coin pulses off of said gaming machine's hard meter, and bonuses a player based on number of coins or pulses played.

8. The device of claim 1 wherein said numeric counter can count various coin denominations, e.g., nickel, dime, quarter or dollar slots.
9. The device of claim 1 wherein said ticket is a raffle, sweepstakes or lottery ticket.
10. The device of claim 1 wherein said dispensing units are linked so that a combination of devices has to have a certain number of coins inserted before a ticket is dispensed.
11. The device of claim 1 further comprising;  
a remote unit for changing the number of coins necessary to generate said ticket.
12. A process for paying out a bonus to a player playing a gaming machine comprising;  
placing coins in a gaming machine  
counting said coins players place in said gaming machine;  
showing said number of counted coins to said player;  
showing said player number of coins needed for a ticket to be generated;.   
dispensing a ticket when said number of counted coins equals said number of coins needed for a ticket to be generated.
13. The process of claim 12 wherein said counting of said coins is accomplished by counting coin pulses off of said gaming machine's hard meter, and dispensing a ticket based on number of coins or pulses played.
14. The process of claim 12 wherein said ticket is a raffle, sweepstakes or lottery ticket.
15. The process of claim 14 further comprising;  
holding a drawing to determine a winner of said ticket
16. The process of claim 12 further comprising;

generating a bonus prize from a percentage of total coins placed into all participating gaming machines.

17. The process of claim 12 further comprising;

resetting said counted coins to zero once a ticket is dispensed.

18. The process of claim 12 further comprising;

changing said number of coins needed to generate said ticket from a remote unit.